

**STILLWATER COUNTY  
COMMISSIONER MINUTES**

<p><b>Notice:</b> These minutes reflect the proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners. The official minutes are on file with the Clerk and Recorder MCA 7-4-2611(2)(b).</p>
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**REGULAR MEETING  
May 11, 2021**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Commissioner Mark Crago, Chair, Commissioner Steve Riveland, member; Shannon Fisher Admin Assistant.  Others Present: Dana Weatherford, Weed Department; Bill Pronovost, DES; Chip Kem, SCSO; Jerry Friend, Treasurer; Randy Smith, SCSO; Kevin Ray, Road & Bridge; Jerry Bokma, Facilities; Emily Schabacker, Stillwater County News; Citizens: Shirlee Keffer.
<b>PLEDGE</b>	Commissioner Crago opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.
<b>MINUTES</b>	April 20 and April 27, 2021.  Commissioner Hamilton <b>MOVED</b> to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Riveland <b>SECONDED</b> . No discussion. <u>Motion passed unanimously.</u>
<b>CLAIMS</b>	None presented.
<b>CONSENT AGENDA</b>	<u><b>Weed District Board</b></u> A) Montana Department Transportation Weed Spraying Contract  <u><b>Absarokee Sewer</b></u> A) Absarokee Sewer Project Change Order
<b>FILE ITEMS</b>	<u><b>Clerk &amp; Recorder</b></u> A) Report for the month of April in the amount of \$16,123.81.  <u><b>Justice Court</b></u> A) Report for the month of April in the amount of \$16,167.00.  <u><b>Sheriff</b></u> A) Report for the month of April in the amount of \$200.00.  Commissioner Riveland <b>MOVED</b> to consent to the consent agenda and file the file items. Commissioner Hamilton <b>SECONDED</b> . Discussion – Emily Schabacker asked what the project change is on the Absarokee Sewer. Commissioner Crago responded that there is an irrigation ditch that will need a passover and a culvert installation. The amount for the change order is \$2021.20. <u>Motion passed unanimously.</u>
<b>REGULAR BUSINESS</b>	<u><b>Treasurer</b></u> A) Order 21-02. Order to cancel delinquent personal property taxes and real property taxes for a total amount of \$5,293.99. Commissioner Hamilton <b>MOVED</b> to approve Order 21-02 an order to cancel delinquent personal taxes and real property taxes for a total amount of \$5,293.99. Commissioner Riveland <b>SECONDED</b> . No discussion. <u>Motion passed unanimously.</u>

### **Commission**

A) Resolution 2021-06. Resolution to join the Big Sky Passenger Rail Authority. Commissioner Riveland **MOVED** to table Resolution 2021-06 a resolution to join the Big Sky Passenger Rail authority until we have more information. Commissioner Hamilton **SECONDED**. Discussion – Commissioner Hamilton stated that he was able to obtain answers for questions presented at the public hearing. Commissioner Hamilton further stated that he is waiting for the written form of the answers before presenting them to the Board. Commissioner Crago noted that if the motion passes by tabling it, it will need to be on the agenda to removed from the table prior to going back on the agenda to be voted on. The resolution will have to appear on the agenda two more times if this passes. Shirlee Keffer asked if there would be no action taken on this resolution today until there is more information on the questions that were asked. Commission Hamilton replied that the questions were verbally answered and he is waiting to get it in writing so everyone can have the information. Shirlee stated that the resolution being considered needs to be clarified. There is not enough information to realize that it is about establishing a passenger rail and the authority is looking perhaps from Denver to Salt Lake and it has been forty-five years since there has been a passenger train. If the county were to join, later down the road, the county may have to subsidize the passenger rail and that is not a good thing. The county residents need to know where to go to read the resolution that originated from Missoula. There are eleven counties that have signed on to this, Broadwater, Butte-Silverbow, Dawson, Gallatin, Granite, Jefferson, Missoula, Park, Powell, Prairie, Sanders and Wibaux. Lewis and Clark is deliberating and waiting for more information. It is interesting that Commissioners are not representing all these counties, for example, in Sanders county it is a retired electrical engineer, in Dawson it is an economic development council director, in Jefferson it is the Whitehall Mayor. There is a mix of representations and just not County Commissioners. Shirlee restated that more information is needed before any commitment is made by the Commissioners. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Facilities**

A) Purchase of new zero turn lawn mower in the amount of \$10,499.00. Commissioner Hamilton **MOVED** to approve the purchase of a new zero turn lawn mower in the amount of \$10,499.00. Commissioner Riveland **SECONDED**. Discussion – Emily Schabacker asked if there was more information like if the county needed a new one. Commissioner Crago replied that the mower this is replacing is over forty years old and is a 1970's model and the zero turn mowers are more efficient mowers than the standard front wheel turn models. Commissioner Hamilton added that the deck is much bigger and will cut down on mowing time. Jerry Friend asked what brand the mower is and how big is it. Jerry Bokma replied that that brand is a Bad Boy mower from Western Ranch supply and has a 61" deck. Shirlee Keffer asked if it is made in America. Commissioner Hamilton replied that he believes the bad boy mowers are made in America but he will have to check. Motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON COUNTY BUSINESS** – Shirlee Keffer stated that since the last Commissioner Meeting, she has learned that the assisted living old hospital site bid did not go through. Shirlee stated that she would like to see an update on that

**With no further comments heard the meeting was adjourned at 9:09 a.m.**

APPROVED BY: /s/ Mark Crago, Commissioner Chairman

ATTEST: Heidi L. Stadel, Clerk and Recorder